

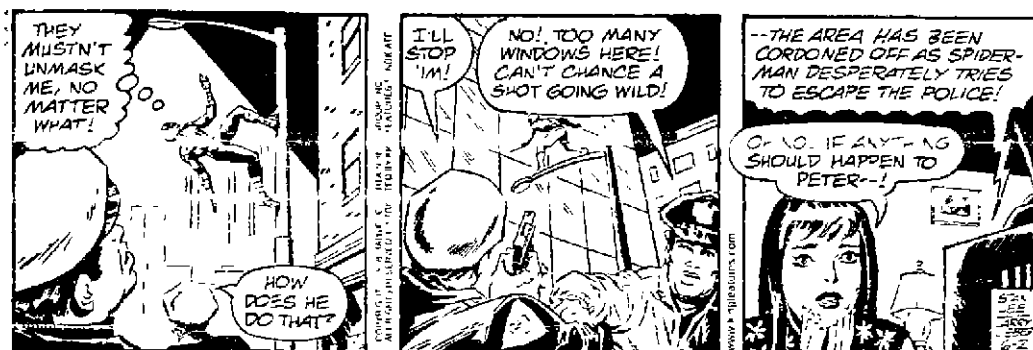
BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



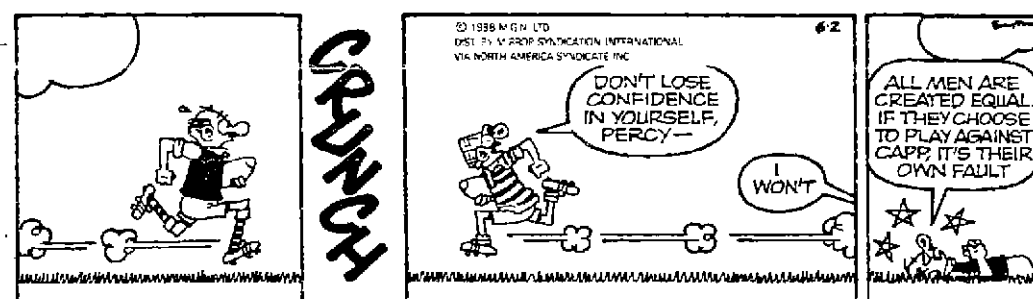
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



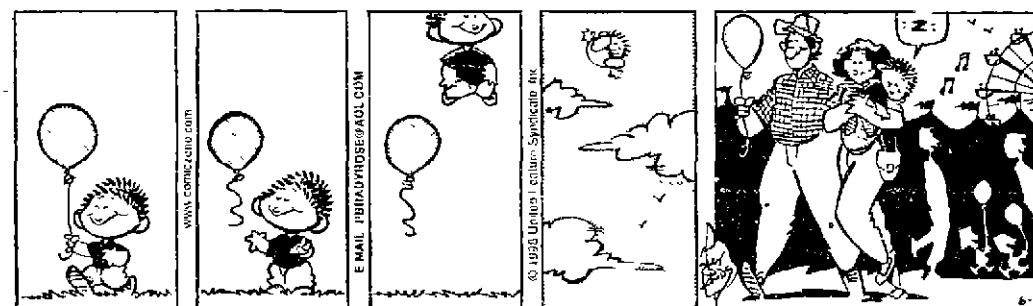
9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



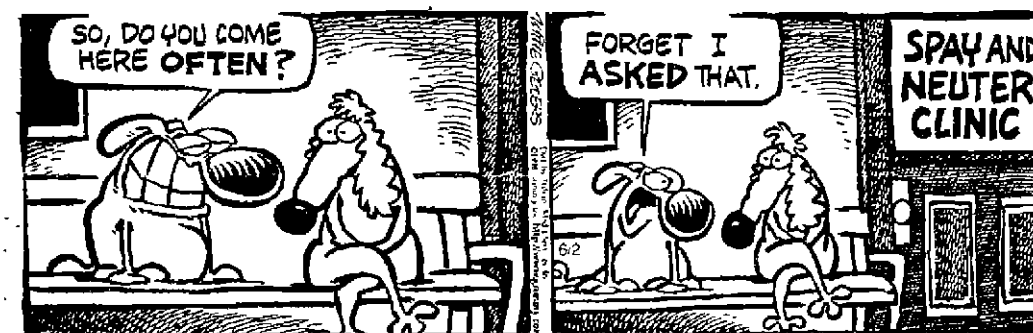
ROSE IS ROSE



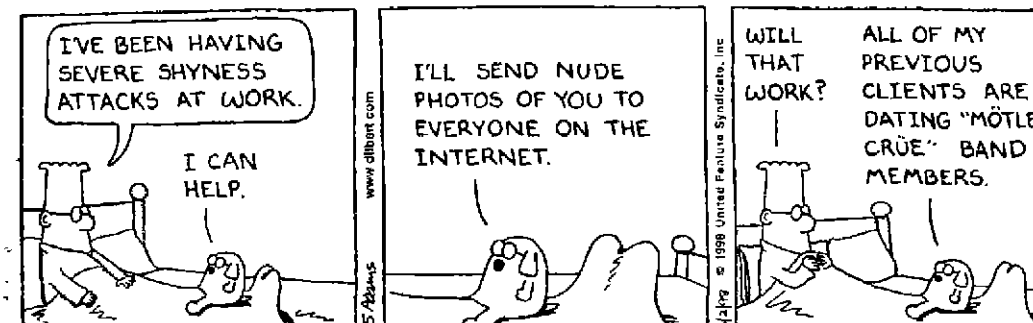
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



DILBERT



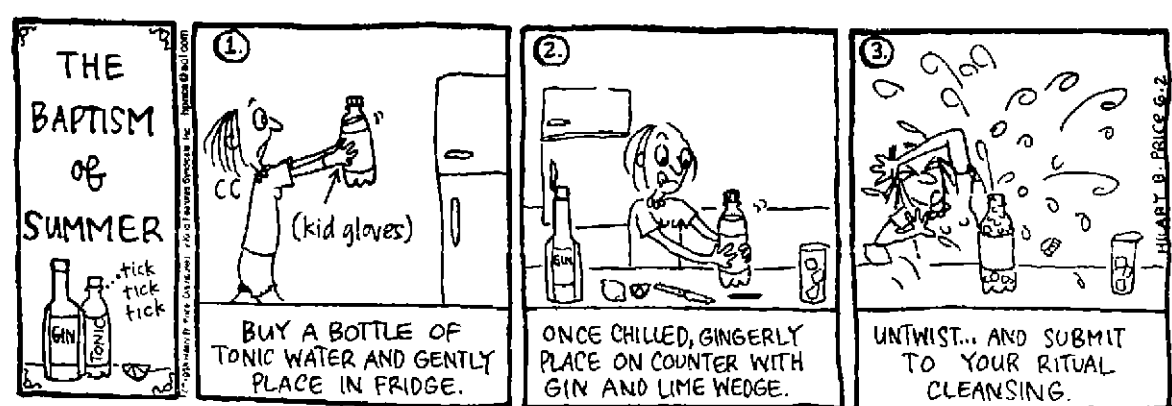
DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Actor-composer Max Showalter is 81. Actor Milo O'Shea is 72. Actress Sally Kellerman is 61. Actor Stacy Keach is 57. Rock musician Charlie Watts is 57. Singer William Guest (Gladys Knight & The Pips) is 57. Composer Marvin Hamlisch is 54. Actor Jerry Mathers is 50. Actress Joanna Gleason is 48. Comedian Dana Carvey is 43. Actor Gary Grimes ("Summer of '42") is 43. Rapper B-Real (Cypress Hill) is 28.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

PAR SCORE 110-120

by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrill-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Wednesday, June 3, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A co-worker's motives aren't exactly pure where you're concerned. Watch for any signs that you are being undermined.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're in a glorious mood as the day begins. This has you putting in a very productive workday.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You're making some important connections concerning your career. However, be sure you aren't ignoring some important people in your life.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Something you've always wanted to do becomes a reality. Enjoy this very special experience.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Feel free to mix business and pleasure, since it proves beneficial. Later, a creative pursuit takes up your time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Someone's machinations aren't sitting well with you. However, it seems that bigwigs are buying into this for the short term.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Self-confidence is accentuated, and you're feeling pretty good about your accomplishments. This doesn't mean you can rest on your laurels.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Work goes off without a hitch, and you're most productive. At home, you're in the mood to just sit back and relax.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You're at the forefront of a major work development. Bigwigs notice and seek you out for feedback.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) A friend's erratic behavior has you worried. However, you need to give this person free rein.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Romance is sizzling for singles. Married couples too enjoy renewed intimacy.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Good news is imminent. For now, though, you must deal with your daily routine as best you can.

WORD SLEUTH

State Flowers

Q Q S O M J H F N C B A Y H W

U R Y P N L J R R E I S H S F

M D R N B Z O X E N T V I U T

A R I Q O H T O V I T M Y R A

Y K N I T E N N O B E U L B I

F H G W L F P D L M R B I E L

L Z A O Y W V I C U K K L G L

O H I D O R N E D L O G O A E

W V Q O N L S K E O O I G S M

E H F D C O A Z R C T X E W A

R V U S R E W O L F N U S R C

Monday's unlisted clue: RIBBON

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: PILGRIM'S SHIP

Bitterroot Goldenrod Red clover Sunflower
Hawthorn Rose Sycamore
Camellia Iris Sagebrush Violet
Columbine Peony Sego lily

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For solution, see Classified.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

"You went wrong in the endgame," observed a critical North. "Yes, but it was a pure guess. However, I missed a better play at trick two." South ruffed the diamond in dummy and cashed the 10 and ace of trumps. When the king and ace of clubs failed to drop the jack, he cashed dummy's club queen, hoping for a 3-3 split. When nothing good happened, South had to avoid two spade losers. He led a trump to his king, cashed the diamond ace, ruffed a diamond, and led a low spade to his king, hoping to lose to the ace. However, West shrewdly ducked. South then returned to dummy and led the spade 10. When East played low, South had to guess. Going wrong, South went up with his queen, losing to the ace, and East's spade jack beat the slam. Was it a guess, or should South have finessed against East's spade jack? It was a pure guess. Either defender might have the ace or the jack. (If West held A-x or J-x, either the finesse or queen would win.)

South was also correct about improving his chances earlier in the play. At trick two, South should lead a low spade to his king. Early on, West might not have found the excellent duck, and South would not have a guess. After West wins his ace early and South finds no luck in clubs, South's percentage shot is to finesse against the spade jack, and he lands the slam. If one reveals much about the hand, it's easier for a defender to make a good play.

NORTH 06-02 A
♠ 10 9 7 4
♥ Q J 10 8 2
♦ ---
♣ K Q 8 6

WEST
♠ A 5 3
♥ 6 5
♦ Q 10 9 6 5 4
♣ 9 7

EAST
♠ J 8 6
♥ 9 3
♦ K 7 3 2
♣ J 5 4 2

SOUTH
♠ K Q 2
♥ A K 7 4
♦ A 3 2
♣ A 10 3

Vulnerable Both
Dealer: East

The bidding:
East Pass South 2 NT West Pass North 3 ♠
Pass 3 ♥ Pass Pass
Pass Pass Pass Pass
*21-22 HCP

Opening lead: Diamond 10

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0421

ACROSS

- 1 Top Tatar
5 N.Y.C. gallery
9 Bygone A.M.C. car
14 Junction
15 Pop music's Clapton or Carmen
16 Allan—
17 Hoary
20 Obliterates
21 "Hurry up!"
22 Scruff
23 Happy hour day, usually: Abbr.
24 "Piano," literally
26 Any doctrine
27 Eyepieces, in jargon
31 Opposite of pencil in
33 Settlement of 1624

DOWN

- 36 Swarm
37 Give it — (attempt to do)
38 Wine connoisseur's concern
42 Extra life
47 Garbo, who wanted to be let alone
48 Beat the admission fee
50 Rage
51 Where Tulsa is: Abbr.
54 MSNBC competitor
55 Beats by a nose
57 Mama Cass of the Mamas and the Papas
59 Erratic move
62 Thoroughbred-breeding country
65 Sacrifice site

Yard pest

- 67 Diva Moffo
68 Steel plow maker
69 Copies
70 "Shoot!"

DOWN

- 1 The "K" of James K. Polk
2 19th — (golf clubhouse)
3 Throws in
4 Teachers' org.
5 Autobiographies
6 City near Provo
7 Pesky arachnids
8 Cause for a blessing
9 Audio systems, for short
10 Mideast's Gulf of

- 11 Channel port
12 Pass, as time
13 Shorten again, as a skirt

- 14 "Get outta here!"
15 Famished

- 16 Burn a steak on purpose?

- 17 — la-la

- 18 Neighbor of Que.

- 19 Middle grade

- 20 Hockey's Krupp

- 21 Astronomer's

- 22 "The Joy Luck Club" writer

- 23 Big head

- 24 Propels a dinghy

- 25 Apt. feature, in the classifieds

- 26 "What —, chopped liver?"

- 27 Stimpy's TV partner

- 28 Ear: Prefix

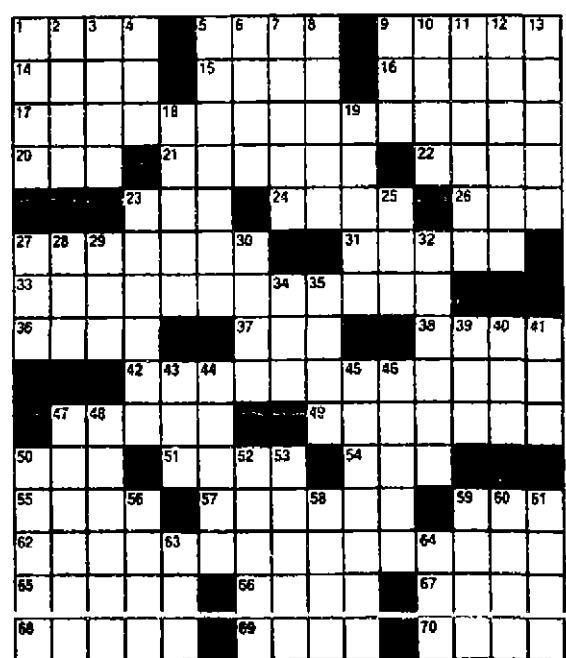
- 29 Autumn toilet

- 30 Concert extenders

- 31 Car's front

- 32 Good name

- 33 — company (running with troublemakers)



Puzzle by Fred Placop

40 "What —, chopped liver?"

41 Stimpy's TV partner

42 Ear: Prefix

43 Autumn toilet

44 Concert extenders

45 Car's front

46 Good name

47 — company (running with troublemakers)

48 "What —, chopped liver?"

49 Stimpy's TV partner

50 Ear: Prefix

51 Autumn toilet

52 Concert extenders

53 Car's front

54 Good name

55 — company (running with troublemakers)

52 Andean animal

53 Journalist Stewart

54 Burn the surface of

55 Col. senior's test

56 Vacation spot, perhaps

57 Kind of station

58 Brass component

59 New Rochelle college

60 Pesky flyer

61 Col. senior's test

62 Kind of station

63 Brass component

64 New Rochelle college

65 Pesky flyer

66 Col. senior's test

67 Kind of station

68 Brass component

69 New Rochelle college

70 Pesky flyer

71 Col. senior's test

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186 Col. senior's test

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188 Brass component

189 New Rochelle college

190 Pesky flyer

191 Col. senior's test

192 Kind of station

193 Brass component

194 New Rochelle college

195 Pesky flyer

196 Col. senior's test